

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BANGKOK 22255 ACTION SECSTATE INFO HONG KONG
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QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 22255

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SUBJ:THAI VISIT TO HANOI CONCLUDES WITH AGREEMENT ON DIPLOMATIC
TIES

REF: MANILA 10211

1. FOLLOWING CABINET MEETING AUGUST 6 WHICH, INTER ALIA, GAVE
PRIOR APPROVAL TO FINAL COMMUNIQUE CONTAINING AGREEMENT TO
ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, RESULTING FROM THAI-
VIETNAMESE DISCUSSIONS IN HANOI, PRIME MINISTER SENI PRAMOT TOLD
NEWSMEN THAT ACCORD BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES REACHED ON BASIS
SIMILAR TO THAT EMPLOYED BETWEEN MANILA AND HANOI, MEANING
PRESUMABLY THE FOUR PRINCIPLES (REFTEL). SRV'S RELATIVE SILENCE
ON PROGRESS OF MEETINGS DURING FOREIGN MINISTER PHICHAI
RATTAKUN'S TRIP AND THE RATHER RESTRAINED INFORMATION GIVEN TO THE
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PRESS IN BANGKOK HAS LED TO SPECULATION THAT DISCUSSIONS HAVE NOT

BEEN EASY. DEPUTY INTERIOR MINISTER SAMAK SUNTHORAWET NOTED IN ONE INTERVIEW THAT THE VIETNAMESE-PROPOSED SENTENCE IN COMMUNIQUE TO THE EFFECT THAT 'BOTH COUNTRIES WILL COOPERATE TO REKPUILD POST-WAR ECONOMY" WAS THE ONE CAUSING THE THAI PROBLEMS.

2. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER LEK NANA TOLD THE PRESS THAT FOLLOWING WILL OCCUR ONCE RELATIONS NORMALIZED: (A) EACH COUNTRY WILL ALLOW PLANES OF OTHER OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS, (B) TRADE RELATIONS WILL BE ESTABLISHED, (C) SRV WILL RELEASE THAI FISHING BOATS AND FISH-ERMEN STILL BEING HELD AND (D) A JOINT COMMITTEE WILL BE SET UP TO DISCUSS THE REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES WHO HAVE LONG LIVED IN THAILAND. PHICHAI ALSO REPORTEDLY INVITED SRV FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN DUY TRINH TO VISIT THAILAND.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE PLANES ISSUE, LEK NANA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT DELEGATIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES AGREEE TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM AFTER NORMALIZATION, ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT U.S. PLANES AND WEAPONS IN THAILAND BEFORE THE FALL OF SAIGON SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TO BELONG TO THE U.S. WHILE PLANES AND OTHER WEAPONS TAKEN TO THAILAND AFTER THE FALL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TO BELONG TO THE SRV. THIS, OF COURSE, IS A POSITION FAIRLY SIMILAR TO OUR OWN.

4. FINAL JOINT COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAS BEEN BROADCAST OVER HANOI RADIO, WHICH FBIS IS NOW TEXTING. WE EXPECT THAT FOREIGN MINISTER PHICHAI WILL COMMENT ON IT AND ON DISCUSSIONS IN GENERAL WHEN HE RETURNS TO BANGKOK THIS EVENING. FBIS WILL TRANSMIT ANY SIGNIFICANT REMARKS.

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